EPIC COMICS
Timespirits
TIMESPIRITS 2
DECEMBER 1984
$1.50
$1.75 CANADA
MARVEL

writer /co-creator
STEVE PERRY

artist / co-creator
TOM YEATES

EPIC COMICS

editor
ARCHIE GOODWIN

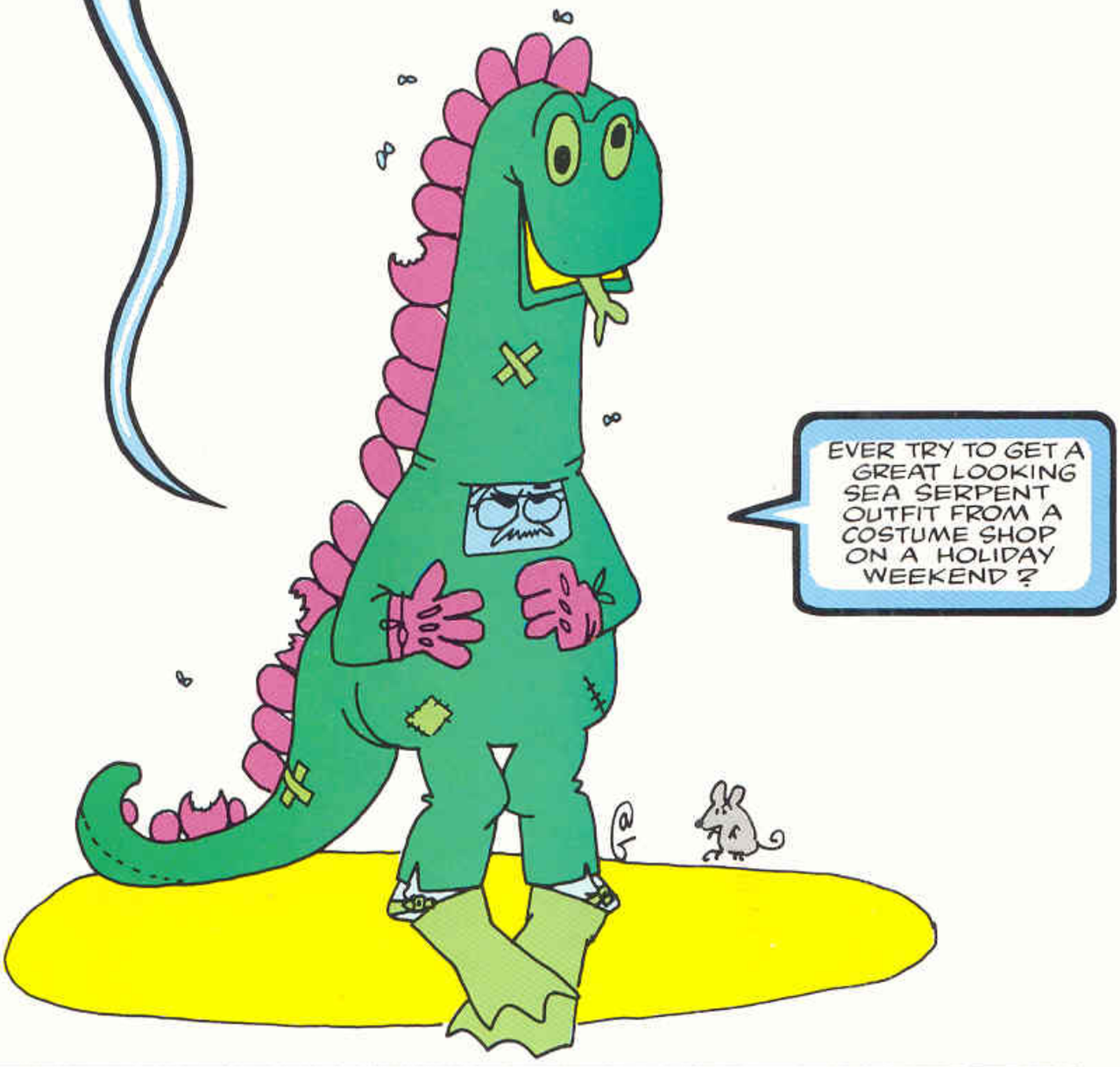
associate editor
LAURIE SUTTON

letterer
ANDY KUBERT

colorist
STEVE OLIFF

consulting editor
JIM SHOOTER

HI. ARCHIE GOODWIN AGAIN ... EDITOR OF MARVEL'S EPIC COMICS LINE. IT'S ***LABOR DAY WEEKEND*** AS I'M DOING THIS EDITORIAL. LAURIE SUTTON AND MARGARET CLARK, ASSOCIATE EDITOR AND ASSISTANT EDITOR OF ***TIME SPIRITS***, ARE OFF PROMOTING THIS AND OUR OTHER TITLES -- LIKE ***VOID INDIGO, DREADSTAR, SISTERHOOD OF STEEL, COYOTE*** AND ***ALIEN LEGION*** -- AT THE WORLD SCIENCE-FICTION CONVENTION IN ANAHEIM. ARTIST TOM YEATES IS FURTHER NORTH IN CALIFORNIA, COMMUNING WITH OUR NEXT ISSUE. WRITER STEVE PERRY IS HOME IN VERMONT PLUNDERING HISTORY BOOKS FOR FUTURE LOCALES. BUT I WANTED TO BE HERE TO WELCOME YOU TO OUR SECOND ISSUE. THIS ONE HAS ***EVERYTHING!*** TWO TIME-TRAVELING HEROES, VIKINGS, SORCERERS ... EVEN A TALKING FISH! BUT YOU KNOW WHAT REALLY EXCITED ***ME...?*** THERE'S A ***SEA SERPENT!*** I'M A SUCKER FOR SEA SERPENTS! SO YOU KNOW WHAT I THOUGHT WOULD BE REALLY ***NEAT?*** IF, WHILE I DID THE EDITORIAL, I COULD WEAR THIS GREAT LOOKING ***SEA SERPENT*** OUTFIT ...



TIMESPIRITS™ Vol. 1, No. 2, December, 1984. Published by MARVEL COMICS GROUP, James E. Galton, President; Stan Lee, Publisher; Michael Hobson, Vice-President, Publishing; Milton Schiffman, Vice-President, Production. Office of Publication: 387 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10016. Published bi-monthly. TIMESPIRITS™ (including all prominent characters featured in this issue) and the distinctive likenesses thereof are the trademarks of Steve Perry and Tom Yeates. "Epic Comics" is a registered trademark of the Marvel Comics Group, a division of Cadence Industries Corporation. All TIMESPIRITS™ material copyright ©1984 Steve Perry and Tom Yeates. All other material © 1984 Marvel Comics Group. All rights reserved. Price $1.50 per copy in the US and $1.75 in Canada. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons and / or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. Printed in Canada.

The Spurtyn Duyvel
Part One
"Death of a Timespirit"
HA! GOT ANOTHER!
I DO SO LOVE TO FISH!
YOU KNOW, DOOT, I LIVED AS A FISH ONCE. THEIR LIFE IS MUCH MORE WRETCHED THAN OURS. THEY OFTEN LACK ENOUGH FOOD. YET THEY'RE HAPPY BEINGS, FOR THEY HAVE DANCES OFTEN.
THIS WILL NEVER WORK.
CUSICK! ARE YOU SURE THIS IS THE RIGHT RATTLE?
...LIKE A BABY SUNG TO SLEEP BY ITS MUM.
YET GRAVITY REMAINS STUBBORN, OVERCOME ONLY BY CONCENTRATION OF SPIRIT...
YOU'RE NOT CONCENTRATING. GRAVITY IS YOUR FRIEND.
IT LIKES YOUR MUSIC, BUT THE TONES AND CADENCE OF THE RATTLE ONLY LOOSEN IT UP A BIT... LULLS IT...
HA! GOT YOU!

Special thanks to **RICHARD SILVOY**

OH NO! YOU AGAIN?
I TOLD YOU ALREADY...
...YOU CAN'T COME WITH US!
I KNOW SOMETHING TIMESPIRITS DON'T KNOW!!
THAT'S VERY UNLIKELY.
I KNOW... THE MEMORY OF ALL FISH! OF WATER! OF THE BOTTOM OF THE LAKE!
SIMPLE KNOWLEDGE FOR SUCH A BOASTFUL FISH.
I ALSO KNOW...
...THE SPURTYN DUYVEL...
THE SPURTYN DUYVEL?
HE WHO SPURTS! MY BROTHER ABOVE!
THERE'S SOMETHING SHAPED IN YOUR BRAIN SIMILAR TO THE MISTAKES IN THE BRAIN OF A MADMAN.
THE SPURTYN DUYVEL'S PROBABLY A MYTH.
CLAMP

TALKING FISH ARE VERY VALUABLE.
DON'T WORRY... I CAN SEE A SIGN WHEN IT SQUIRTS ME IN THE FACE.
D-DID I DO THAT?
QUITE! AND HAPPY ABOUT IT I AM, TOO. BUT ROOT, I'M A BIT CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR LACK OF CONTROL.
FULL OF NATURE, YOU ARE, MY BOY! JUST COMING OF AGE. DIFFICULT ENOUGH TO CONTROL BY ITSELF, BUT YOU'VE ALSO GOT TO CONTEND WITH YOUR BROTHER, THREE BIRDS, THERE INSIDE YOU.
SMALL WONDER YOU'RE TOO STRONG FOR YOUR OWN GOOD.
YOU SEE, THREE BIRDS IS BLIND IN THERE, WITHOUT IDENTITY OR ANY VIEW OF REALITY. HE ADDS HIS POWER TO YOUR OWN.
WHEN CALLED UPON, HIS ENERGIES LASH OUT BLINDLY... THAT'S WHY YOUR STRENGTH COMES IN SUCH UNDIRECTED BURSTS.
I'M AFRAID YOUR BROTHER, STUCK IN THERE THAT WAY...
... JUST MIGHT BE GOING MAD.
SURPRISE!
I'VE GOT THE SOLUTION! BEEN WORKING ON IT IN SECRET ALL EIGHT WEEKS WE'VE BEEN TRAINING YOU IN THE WAYS OF A TIMESPIRIT.
IT'S YOUR BROTHER'S EYEBALL! TRADED TO ME FOR THE BLOODLESS GHEEBE!
THIS SHOULD HELP YOU CONTROL YOUR STRENGTH, AND WILL ROOT THREE BIRDS TO YOUR VISION, AND YOU TO HIS. BUT IT MIGHT TAKE A WHILE GETTING USED TO SEEING THREE WAYS.

NOW... WHAT HAVE WE COVERED? SPELL 'A GILLS, SPELL 'A STEEL, ANIMAL LANGUAGES, TRANSMUTATION, LEVITATION, WEATHER CONTROL, ASTRAL BLAZES, FIRE MAKING...
...AND YOU'VE GOT A BIT OF THE SILVERY POWDER TO PLAY WITH, RIGHT?
OH BOY!
THEN I GUESS IT'S TIME TO 'AVE A GO AT MIXING CESSINA! LET YOU TAKE THE REINS ON A HOP THROUGH TIME AND SPACE.
NASA
NOW WE'RE ALMOST OUT OF A MINOR BUT VITAL INGREDIENT, SO WE'LL GO GET SOME... RESTOCK THE SUPPLY! IT'LL BE A GOOD TEST FOR YOU, DOOT. YOU'LL HAVE TO PINPOINT THE ERA OF MONE.
JUST ADD THE LAST... NO! NOT YET!!
OH NO... HE DID IT AGAIN. THE BOY JUST DOESN'T REALIZE HIS OWN POWER!
PROBABLY RICOCHETED THROUGH ALL TIME AND CREATION, TAKING OFF THAT WAY. BETTER CHANGE THE VAPORS SO I CAN FOLLOW HIM.
NO TELLING HOW MANY TIME-ZONES HE BOUNCED THROUGH.
I HOPE HE DIDN'T LAND IN A MESS 'A TROUBLE.
4

WITHIN SIX THOUSAND YEARS THE LAND WOULD BE CALLED NORTH AMERICA, AND WOULD FORGET THE CITIES AND CIVILIZATION BROUGHT TO IT BY THE CELTS, THE PHOENICIANS, AND THE SHIPS OF TARAKIS. ONLY STONE PILES DEEP IN WOODS WOULD REMAIN.
BUT NOW, THE TIME IS THEIRS. BOOMING CITY STATES TRADE AND WAR WITH ONE ANOTHER, THE ROUTES OF COMMERCE ACROSS THE OCEAN THAT HAD BEEN ATLANTIS PLYED DAILY BY SMALL, STOUT BRIGS...
...AND LORDING OVER ALL STANDS...
...NEW IBERIA! WONDEROUS! INVINCIBLE UNDER THE...
... JUST AND KIND RULE OF KING OGAM, GREATEST WIZARD OF THE ERA.
OGAM! INVENTOR OF WRITING! CONQUEROR OF WAR AND FAMINE. PEACEFULLY BEGINNING HIS 16TH YEAR ON HIS DEATH BED.
TUBAL CARRIN SHOULD BE HERE SOON... THAT'LL LIVEN THINGS UP.

TUBAL CARRIN! ONCE OGAM'S FOREMOST STUDENT, BANISHED SIX YEARS NOW FOR A SMARMY, LECHEROUS INCIDENT INVOLVING A NUBILE TWELVE YEAR OLD PRINCESS PEY...
TUBAL CARRIN! AFTER SIX YEARS STILL A MAN IN LUST.
I CAME AS SOON AS I GOT YOUR MESSAGE, PRINCESS.
PRINCESS PEY, I... I'M SO GRATEFUL YOU ASKED ME TO...
FATHER!!! WAKE UP!!
...THEY WON'T GET IT...ENEMIES ...STEAL MY BLACKSACK... WHA?
IT'S TUBAL CARRIN! HE'S COME TO RAPE ME WHILE YOU'RE WEAK AND DYING! SAVE ME, FATHER!
HE... HE'S NOT DEAD? PEY!
YOU! YOU DARE COME BACK!
TAKE ADVANTAGE OF AN OLD MAN ON HIS DEATH BED...STEAL MY BLACKSACK, MOLEST MY DAUGHTER... I KNOW YOU, TUBAL CARRIN!
AND HALF DEAD I'M TEN TIMES THE WIZARD YOU ARE!!
6

GO HOME, TUBAL CARRIN. YOU'RE NOT WANTED HERE!
PEY... WHY... WHY CAN'T YOU MAKE IT EASY...
BACK TO YOUR KINGDOM OF THEIVES AND DERELICTS WITH YOU!
...AND JUST LOVE MEEEEEEEE...
IT REQUIRED FIVE DAYS MARCH FOR TUBAL TO ARRIVE AT OGAM'S; YET OGAM RETURNED HIM IN FIVE SECONDS. IT WASN'T FAIR. TIME AND DISTANCE SHOULD HAVE MORE MEANING! THE CLOCK SHOULD REMAIN CONSTANT!
OR SHOULD IT?
CRASH
PERHAPS TIME IS MALLEABLE, LIKE SCULPTOR'S CLAY...
...AND DAYS CAN PASS IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE.
DAYS IN WHICH TUBAL CARRIN FESTERS IN A CESSPOOL OF VENGEANCE AND DESIRE, CONCEIVES A PLAN, AND YET MORE DAYS WAITING FOR THE FIRST EGG TO HATCH.

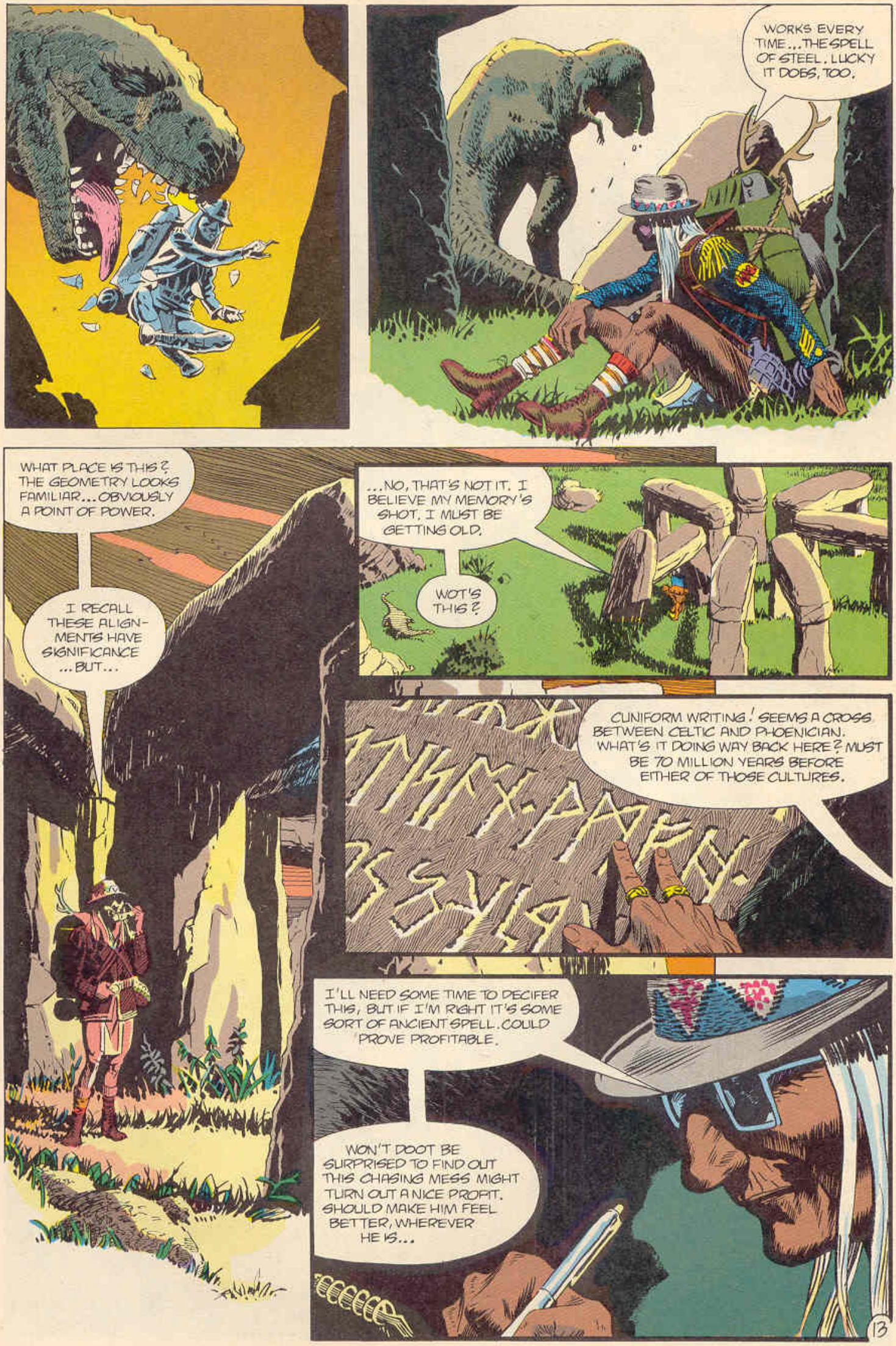
THESE ARE THE EGGS. BAD EGGS.
I AM HORSA. LEADER.
THIS IS THE RUNESAYER. HE CASTS THE RUNES AND READS THE STONE, IN THIS WAY ADVISING ME ON MY BAND'S COURSE OF ACTION.
THE RUNES HAVE DIRECTED US TO ANSWER YOUR CALL. WHAT DO YOU WANT OF US, TUBAL CARRIN?
THE WIZARD CARRIN! ALL KNOW HE CAN CHANGE ELEMENTS TO GOLD!
I WANT YOU TO KIDNAP PRINCESS DEY OF NEW IBERIA.
WE'D BE FOOLS TO CHALLENGE KING OGAM.
I AGREE.
OGAM IS ALMOST DEAD...
...HE'D NEVER WAKE UP. YOU'D BE IN AND OUT BEFORE HE KNEW YOU WERE THERE.
I MUST THINK OF MY MEN.
8

THEN THINK OF THEM... RICHER THAN KINGS!
WHAT SAY YOU, RUNESAYER?
THE SACRED RUNES DEMAND...
...WE ACCEPT TUBAL CARRIN'S OFFER.
WE ACCEPT.

ELSEWHEN...
I DO SO LOVE TO TIME TRAVEL.
...SMOOTH AS A LADY'S CHEEK, IT IS...
YAAAA
HONK
HONK
A BODY'D GET FLATTENED AROUND HERE IF NOT CAREFUL!
PROVIDED HE SURVIVED THE EXHAUST EMISSIONS.

THE FUTURE...
...UGH...
...I HATE IT.
POOR DOOT. I'M GLAD HE'S NOT STUCK IN THIS TIMEZONE...NOW WHERE'S THAT OIL...
THE BOY'S NOT READY FOR AUTOS AND POLITICS AND FAST FOOD. GOOD THING HE RICOCHETED OUT. BETTER FOLLOW BEFORE HE...
OH DEAR... TOO MUCH KICKAPOO OIL...
OOFF!
DOOT!
YOU HERE?
GUESS NOT.
IT'S A BIT OF A LONG HAUL THIS TIME, AYE? THE BLOODY DINO ERA... JURASSIC, I THINK...NO... MESZOIC!

...SHOULD SLOW DOOT'S BOUNCING DOWN CONSIDERABLE. I MIGHT CATCH HIM YET.
CRUNCH
YIKES!
CHOMP


WORKS EVERY TIME...THE SPELL OF STEEL. LUCKY IT DOES, TOO.
WHAT PLACE IS THIS? THE GEOMETRY LOOKS FAMILIAR...OBVIOUSLY A POINT OF POWER.
I RECALL THESE ALIGNMENTS HAVE SIGNIFICANCE ...BUT...
...NO, THAT'S NOT IT. I BELIEVE MY MEMORY'S SHOT. I MUST BE GETTING OLD.
WOT'S THIS?
CUNIFORM WRITING! SEEMS A CROSS BETWEEN CELTIC AND PHOENICIAN. WHAT'S IT DOING WAY BACK HERE? MUST BE 70 MILLION YEARS BEFORE EITHER OF THOSE CULTURES.
I'LL NEED SOME TIME TO DECIFER THIS, BUT IF I'M RIGHT IT'S SOME SORT OF ANCIENT SPELL. COULD PROVE PROFITABLE.
WON'T DOOT BE SURPRISED TO FIND OUT THIS CHASING MESS MIGHT TURN OUT A NICE PROFIT. SHOULD MAKE HIM FEEL BETTER, WHEREVER HE IS...

I CAN'T STAND IT ANYMORE... HE'LL PROBABLY DROWN IN HIS OWN PHLEGM.
I DON'T CARE IF HE IS MY FATHER...
...HE'S STILL A GROSS OLD MAMMMMFF...
HORSA! I'VE GOT HER!
BRING HER! MOVE ...ALL OF YOU ...MOVE! MOVE!
TO THE SHIP, YOU SEA DOGS! LEAVE THE WOUNDED!
EVEN ASLEEP ON HIS DEATH BED OLD KING OGAM USES HIS MAGIC. HE KNOWS...
...HIS ENEMIES AND HOW TO DEAL WITH THEM. HE KNOWS ANY PLOT OF TUBAL CARRINS IS AS INEPT AS IT IS SIMPLE.

AND HE KNOWS HE STILL POSSESSES THE BLACKSACK.
NO ONE SHALL STEAL YOU FROM ME!
IT HANGS THERE LIKE SOME POOR RELATION TO THE GOLDEN FLEECE, AWAITING DEFT FINGERS TO FREE ITS SECRETS.
HIS HAND CLOSES ON SOMETHING COLD AND MOIST...
...AS HIS MINDRAVEN IS BORN FROM HIS FOREHEAD.
DELIVER THIS TO THE SEA, AND BE QUICK, FOR IT GROWS BY THE MOMENT.
IT SHALL RETURN MY DAUGHTER TO ME... MY DAUGHTER...
...STRIKE ME DEAD IF I DON'T LOVE THE CONNIVING, OBSTINATE LITTLE CHILD...
...BUT I WISH SHE'D STOP GETTING INTO SUCH THINGS.

AT LAST...
...IT'S STOPPED... NO MORE HORRIBLE METAL BEASTS...TERRIBLE LIZARDS...THANK THE...
...ONE ABOVE US? WHAT?
DO WHAT TO ME?
A PICT SHAMAN! SLAY HIM IMMEDIATELY!
AFTER WHAT I'VE JUST SEEN IT'S NICE TO BE THREATENED BY NORMAL HUMAN BEINGS...
VERY NICE.
I'M CALLED PEY. THESE BRUTES HAVE KIDNAPPED ME.
OHHH... SAVE ME!

I'M DOOT. I WILL HELP YOU.
SPEAR IT, AXE IT, FEATHER IT WITH ARROWS...THAT WON'T HURT A SEA SERPENT.
IT TAKES POWER.
...AND I'VE GOT IT!
WATCH THIS, PEY!
DEATH TO THE PICT!
CLEAVE HIS SKULL... AAARRRGHHH!

THE FLAME OF DOOT'S VERY SPIRIT DIVES AND DIPS AND BUZZES, SETTING THE MONSTER UP FOR ONE CONCENTRATED DISCHARGE OF ENERGY...
THE DISCHARGE NEVER COMES.
SNAP
W...WHAT? WHAT ABOUT ME?!
HIS BODY REJOINS THE DISRUPTED SPIRIT, CALLED TO THE STRONGER OF THE PAIR. HIS MOUTH TASTES OF OZONE. HE CAN SMELL SALT, AND WATER WHISTLES THROUGH HIS EARS.
WELL THERE YOU ARE!
CALL IT CONFUSION.
19

I'LL TELL YOU, DOOT, IT'S BEEN A BLOODY TRIAL FINDING YOU. NOT AT ALL WORTHLESS, THOUGH!
I HOPE YOU'RE ALL RIGHT... YOU SAW A FEW THINGS YOU'RE NOT QUITE READY FOR...
...THE FUTURE AND THE DIM PAST ...STRANGE PLACES ONE SHOULD EASE INTO GRADUALLY.
...COUGH COUGH... CLSICK...I'M ...FREEZING...
DIDN'T I TEACH YOU THE SPELL OF GILLS?
I'M SURE I DID.
DIDN'T I?
WELL, DESPITE THAT I THINK THIS LESSON HAS GONE RATHER DECENT ALL IN ALL.
YOU DID FINALLY ARRIVE AT OUR DESTINATION, IF IN A RATHER ROUNDABOUT WAY.
THERE'S THE PROOF!
THAT SERPENT'S WHAT WE'RE AFTER!
HAVE... COUGH ...YOU GONE..COUGH ...CRAZY?
THE MONE, MY BOY!
THE MONE IN A SEA SERPENT'S EAR!

NIDZPHU PHO MONE, NO NO MONE.
JUST HAVE TO KNOW HOW TO TALK TO THEM.
AND WHAT TO SAY.
WE'VE GOT ENOUGH MONE HERE TO LAST US A PRETTY SPELL. RATHER GOOD BIT 'O LUCK FINDING SUCH A CLOGGED UP SPECIMEN.
DOOT?
NATURE GAVE THE VANIR THE OCEANS. TIS THEIR RELIGION. AND THEY'VE A FINE LITTLE SHIP ALL FITTED UP FOR WRESTLING WITH THE SECRETS OF THE DEEP.
WHAT WAS IT THAT BYRON FELLOW SAID?
"A THOUSAND FLEETS SWEEP OVER THEE IN VAIN."
BUT IT'S NOT WHAT'S UNDER THAT BOAT WHAT INTERESTS YOU, EH, YOUNG BUCK? YOU'RE RAW, INEXPERIENCED, GOT A TOUCH OF THE GLANDS, I'D SAY.
GO AFTER HER, DOOT. DISCOVER.

IT MIGHT TAKE A WHILE... HOW DO WE MEET? WHAT WILL YOU DO?
DON'T FRET ABOUT ME, DOOT. I'LL OCCUPY MYSELF! THERE'S ALWAYS A PROFIT TO BE MADE IN ANY TIMEZONE.
AND DON'T WORRY... OUR DESTINIES ARE TOO TANGLED FOR US TO EVER STAY SEPARATED FOR LONG! GOOD LUCK! AHHH, YOUTH! LOVE! MAKES A BARD'S HEART THUMP WITH JOY, IT DOES! POETRY OF THE SOUL!
I'M NOT SO OLD AS I DON'T REMEMBER WHAT TO DO!
WHAT TO DO... WHAT TO DO...
OF COURSE!
I'LL DANCE THE SPELL OF DESPERATION!
THERE'S ALWAYS SOMEONE, SOMEWHERE, AT THE VERY LIMIT OF DESPAIR, WILLING TO TRADE ANYTHING FOR THE ANSWER.
WILLING TO TRADE THEIR VERY SPIRIT! AND IF ANYONE'S EVER WILLING TO TRADE THAT... THEY MIGHT NOT DESERVE IT IN THE FIRST PLACE! IT COULD JUST END UP ROTTING BELOW.
BETTER TO SEE IT PLEDGED TO CUSICK THE TUSCARORA!
LEAST I KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH STRONG, FRESH SPIRITS... AND EVEN OLD, TIRED ONES, TOO!
I HAVE THE USES FOR 'EM!

IT'S HIS OWN FAULT!
I'LL STAND NO MORE FROM YOU! BECAUSE WE'RE BOTH WOMEN I'VE STAYED MY MEN FROM TAKING ANY... LIBERTIES WITH YOU ...BUT NOW...
...PERHAPS THEY CAN USE THE RELEASE BEFORE WE TURN YOU OVER TO TUBAL CARRIN!
THE PICT! NO...NO ...GET HIM AWAY...
KILL THEM! KILL!
I'VE COME TO SAVE YOU!
WATCH OUT... BEHIND...
...YOU...
SOMETHING IN DOOT HAD GUSHED LIKE A BURST DAM, SWALLOWING GRAVITY AND INERTIA WHOLE, BUT HE WAS GETTING USED TO THESE SUDDEN SURGES OF HIS STRENGTH, AND FOUND THIS ONE HE COULD CONTROL.
FOR ABOUT THREE MINUTES.

...YOUUUUUU IIIIIDIIIT...
GRAVITY IS A FICKLE FRIEND, AND HELPED DOOT ONLY ENOUGH TO PREVENT INJURY...
...TO ALL BUT HIS EGO.
JUST WHEN I WAS GETTING TO LIKE IT.
SOME HERO YOU ARE! YOU'RE AS FOOLISH AS TUBAL CARRIN, AND ONLY SLIGHTLY BETTER LOOKING.
AND I'M NOT IMPRESSED BY YOUR STUPID TRICKS! MY FATHER IS KING OGAM HIMSELF! HE COULD TURN YOU INTO A MAGGOT IF I TOLD HIM TOO!
STILL, I SUPPOSE YOU'RE BETTER THAN TUBAL CARRIN.
DON'T JUST SIT THERE LIKE A BUMP! COME ON!
DADDY WILL WANT TO REWARD YOU FOR SAVING ME FROM THOSE AWFUL BRUTES HIRED BY TUBAL CARRIN.
NEW IBERIA 2 OGRIMETERS
TUBAL CARRIN'S A CHICKEN AT HEART. HE'S SUCH A...
...CLSICK... WHERE ARE YOU...
...AND THEN TUBAL WENT TO...
A LONG...LONG...LONG...TEN MINUTES LATER...

HE'S DYIN' THIS TIME.
...THEY'RE AFTER IT... ALL OVER... MY SOURCE ...GOING TO SPRING ON ME... STEAL IT... ENEMIES...
OH, SPARE ME, DADDY. NO ONE WANTS TO STEAL IT.'
...PEY? IS THAT YOU? I'M AFRAID!
STOP ACTING!
I KNEW YOU'D COME BACK! I SENT A SERPENT TO FETCH YOU! I'M REALLY DYING THIS TIME... I NEED MY BABY GIRL...
SIXTEEN YEARS AND THAT'S ALL I HEAR: YOU'RE DYING AND YOU NEED ME. WELL, WHAT ABOUT WHAT I NEED?
TUBAL CARRIN HIRED VANIR AND KIDNAPPED ME, YET YOU DON'T CARE AT ALL! ALL YOU CARE ABOUT IS YOUR STUPID BLACKSACK!
I AM SAVED...
WELCOME, YOUNG TIMESPIRIT! HAVE YOU COME TO ANSWER MY PLIGHT?
YOU KNOW?
THE AURA GIVES YOU AWAY...
AS IT GIVES ME AWAY SHOULD YOU CHOOSE TO LOOK.
YOU'RE...

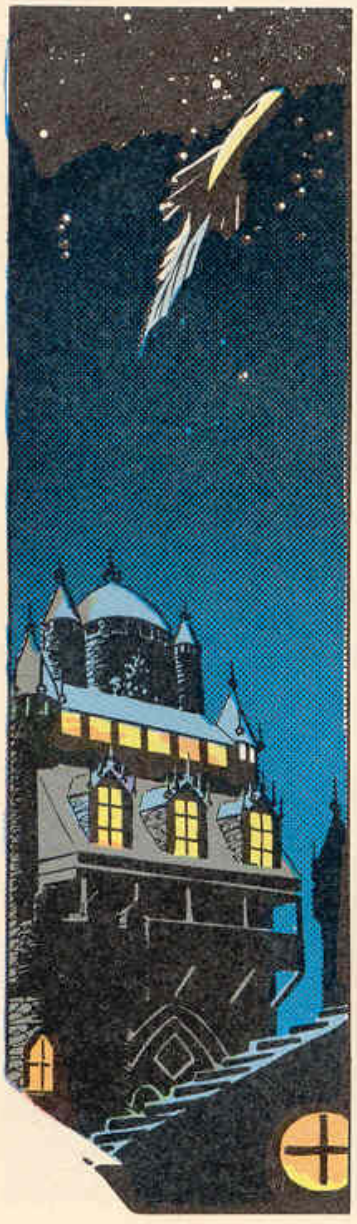
...A TIMESPIRIT, TOO, OR I WAS, ONCE. I WASN'T CUT OUT FOR IT, THOUGH...I LEARNED IT. IT WASN'T NATURAL TO ME.
IN MY YOUTH, MUCH LIKE YOU, I WAS BRASH AND LUCKY ENOUGH TO SOLVE THE RIDDLE OF THE BLACKSACK.
NOW, I CANNOT RETURN IT TO WHERE I FOUND IT SO THAT ONLY SOMEONE WORTHY MAY SECURE IT AGAIN.
HELP ME RETURN IT.
I WILL HELP YOU.
BUT CUSICK WOULD SKIN ME IF I DON'T GET A PRICE.
I KNOW AND EXPECT THIS. SET THE TERMS.
I WANT YOUR DAUGHTER, PRINCESS PEY.
WHAT?!!
SHE'S A GOOD GIRL...JUST UNMANAGEABLE. TAKE HER, BUT I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'D DO WITH HER.
YOU CAN'T I DON'T LIKE HIM! HE'S WORSE THAN TUBAL CARRIN...
AND TAKE MY BLACK-SACK.
...AND SO ARE YOU FOR ALLOWING THIS!
I HOPE YOU DIE SOON!
THE BLACKSACK ITSELF WILL GUIDE YOU TO YOUR DESTINATION. THANK YOU, YOUNG TIMESPIRIT...
...THANK YOU...

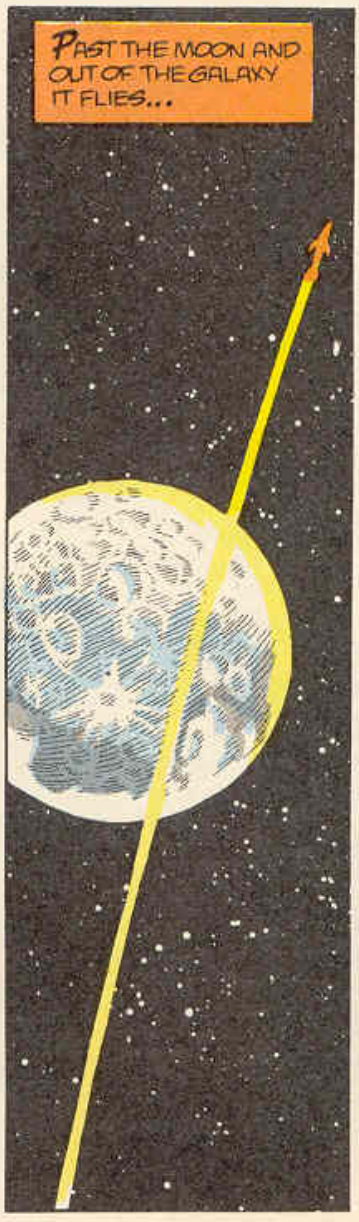
MEANWHILE, AT TUBAL CARRIN'S FORTRESS...
WE'VE COME FOR OUR PAY.
...THE GOLD? THE GOLD?
PEY? WHERE IS SHE? DID YOU GET HER?
THE PICT WIZARD STOLE HER, AND I LOST TEN GOOD MEN. YOU SAID NOTHING ABOUT SERPENTS AND PICTS.
...SHE LOVES HIM! LOVES HIM! THE PICT IS POWER INCARNATE!
S...SHE... LOVE ANOTHER?! AND YOU FILTH WANT PAY!!!
I WANT PEY! SHE'S MINE!
IF SHE LOVES ANOTHER I'LL MAKE THE WORLD SUFFER! I'LL CAUSE MISERY AND PESTILENCE!
HA HACKEL
NO ONE ON THIS PLANET WILL EVER LOVE AGAIN!
I'LL KILL EVERYONE! I'LL CHANGE THEM TO TOADS! I'LL... I'LL...
IF ONLY I WAS A BETTER WIZARD.
IF ONLY I HAD UNLIMITED POWER! I'D CALL DOWN ONTO THIS PUTRID WORLD SUCH ULTIMATE HORRORS...SUCH DESOLATION...
...FOR THAT I'D PAY ANY PRICE... AGREE TO ANY TERMS...
WOT'S THIS I HEAR ABOUT PAYING ANY PRICE?

CUSICK! CUSICK THE TUSCARORA, AT YOUR SERVICE! AN 'UMBLE MAN O'KNOWLEDGE, A MERCENARY TEACHER! A SPIRIT OF TIME AND SPACE, SCHOOLED AT ALL THE GREAT INSTITUTIONS OF LIFE AND ACADEMIA!
I KNOW MORE ABOUT EVERYTHING THAN ANYONE! AND ALL I KNOW IS FOR SALE!
IF YOU CAN PAY THE PRICE.
YOU'RE A WIZARD?
SUCH A SPECIALIZED BRANCH OF KNOWLEDGE.
...SURELY YOU DON'T EXPECT ME TO LIMIT MYSELF TO SIMPLE WIZARDRY? THERE'S SO MUCH MORE!
NOW, WHAT IS IT YOU WANT?
I WANT PRINCESS PEY. PERHAPS A POTION...
FREE LOVE CAN'T BE MANIPULATED.
THEN I WANT IT ALL TO END! FOR EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE! IF I CAN'T HAVE LOVE... NO ONE SHALL!
THE END OF THE WORLD?
RATHER SELFISH, AREN'T YOU?
YOU'D HAVE ME GIVE YOU THE SPURTYN DUYVEL! ONCE RELEASED THE DUYVEL'LL WASH THE WORLD OF LAND AND LIFE, OR SO SAYS THE MYTH.
AND MYTHS ARE ONLY OTHER REALITIES IMPOSING THEMSELVES ON DIFFERENT DIMENSIONS.
GIVE IT TO ME.

I'B BE QUITE THE FOOL TO DO THAT!
NO, I DON'T THINK WE CAN DO ANY BUSINESS. THE SPURTYN DUYVEL WOULD COST YOUR VERY SPIRIT, AND QUITE FRANKLY, TUBAL CARRIN...
...YOUR SPIRIT IS SUCH A CRINGING LITTLE CANCER IT'S JUST ABOUT WORTHLESS. I DON'T WANT IT.
JUST AS SOON KEEP THE SPURTYN DUYVEL, IF IN FACT IT'S REAL. MAKE SURE IT'S NEVER RELEASED ON THIS, OR ANY TIMEZONE.
IT'D TAKE A CLEANER HEART THAN MINE TO SAVE YOU, TUBAL CARRIN. A DIRTIER ONE TO HELP.
BONK
GIVE ME THE SPURTYN DUYVEL!!!
THAT HURT.

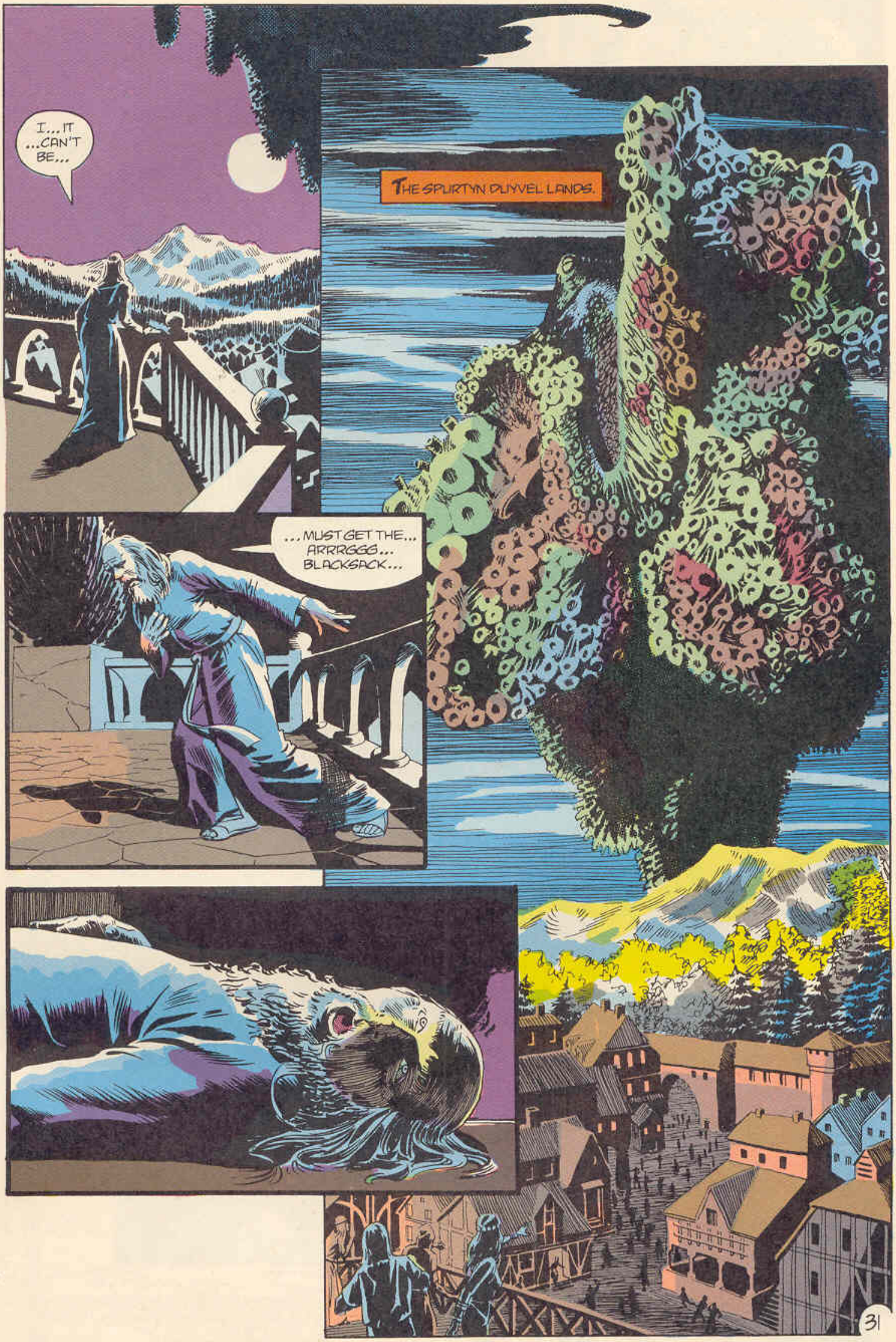
HI THERE!
I KNOW SOMETHING YOU DON'T KNOW! I KNOW MY BROTHER ABOVE... HE WHO SPURTS... THE SPURTYN DUYVEL!!! READ THE WORDS AND I'LL GET HIM FOR YOU!
THE WORDS DROOLED OFF TUBAL CARRIN'S LIPS AND THE LITTLE TALKING FISH BEGAN TO CHANGE, RISING UP, A LUMP OF METALLIC, ORGANIC MATTER.




PAST THE MOON AND OUT OF THE GALAXY IT FLIES...

...TILL DEEP IN THE VOID IT STRIKES SOMETHING MEATY...

...AND ENORMOUS.
THE SPURTYN DUYVEL WAKES.


I... IT ...CAN'T BE...
THE SPURTYN DUYVEL LANDS.
...MUST GET THE... ARRRGGG... BLACKSACK...

...OOOO ...MY HEAD...
THE SPURTYN DUYVEL SPURTS.
W...WHAT HAVE I DONE?
WHAT HAVE I DONE?
I'VE KNOWN SOME STUPID PEOPLE IN MY DAY, TUBAL CARRIN...
...SOME DESPERATE AND NASTY ONES... BUT YOU... THINK, YOU FOOL...
...THE SPURTYN DUYVEL ITSELF.
NOW WHAT WILL YOU DO, TUBAL CARRIN?
NOW WHAT WILL YOU DO?
TO BE CONTINUED...

The Spurtyn Duyvel
part two

"The Blacksack of King Ogam"